IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Heikki Heikkila, et al. **Examiner:** Susan Marie Hanley

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Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and § 1.143

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 3, 2009, setting forth a requirement for restriction, and in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and § 1.143, Applicants provisionally elect for prosecution on the merits in this application, with traverse, Group I (Claims 1-61), which are drawn to a method for recovering arabinose from a vegetable fiber. Applicants also provisionally elect, with traverse, the following species: the optional step of neutralization to not be performed and the optional step of fractionization to be performed (Species A); another monosaccharide to be recovered with the arabinose, wherein the monosaccharide is galactose (Species B); and exudate gum, wherein the exudate gum is gum arabic (Species C).

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

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Dated: July 31, 2009